

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on July 28, 2008, which has a shortened statutory period set to expire October 28, 2008.

Claims 1, 4-10, 16, 17, 19, 21-30, 38, and 47-50 are pending in the above-identified application, and are rejected under 35 USC 103 for the reasons set forth below.

In the current paper, Claims 1 and 10 are amended. No new matter is entered. In view of these amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending rejections.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Rejections over Liu and Wood

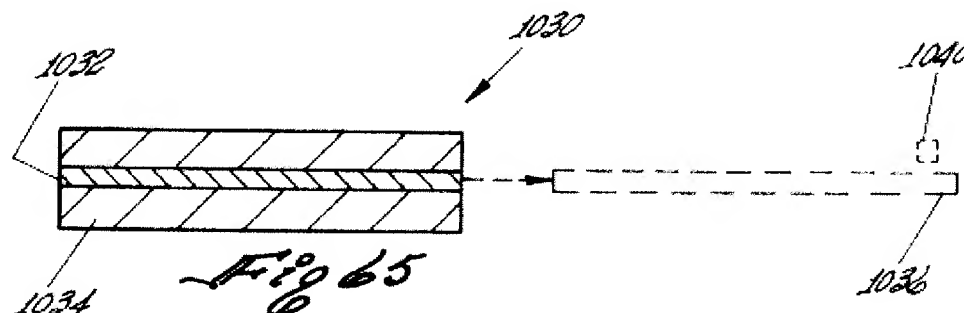
Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (2001/0052543) in view of Wood (US 5,041,922).

Claims 1 and 10 are amended herein to recite (in pertinent part):

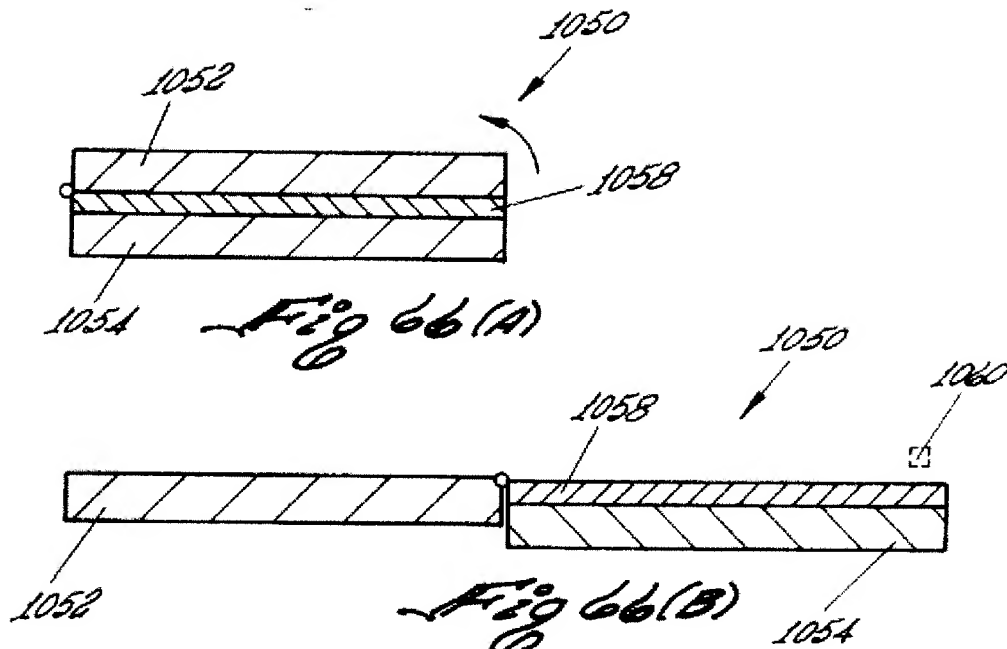
a protective housing having at least one housing section that is movable relative to the data storage device such that data storage device is shielded by said at least one housing section when said at least one housing section is in a first position, and said data storage device is operably exposed for interaction with the data processing station when said when said at least one housing section is in a second position.

Support for the above-quoted language is found, for example, in Applicants' specification on page 98, line 15 to page 99, line 13, and are clearly shown in Applicants' Figs. 65-67, which are copied below for reference. For example, Fig. 65 shows "a protective housing (1034) having at least one housing section that is movable relative to the data storage device

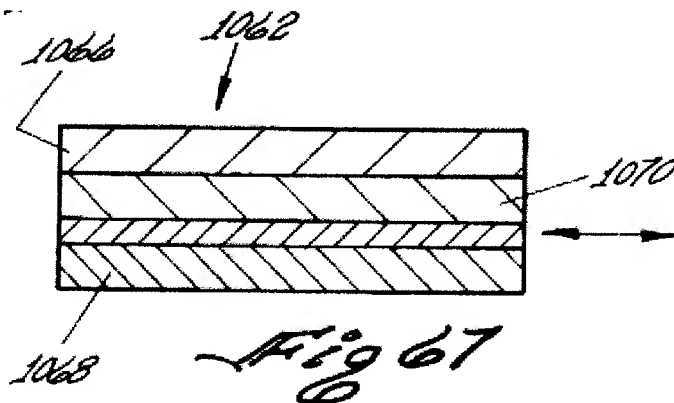
(1032) such that data storage device is shielded by said at least one housing section (indicated in the left side of Fig. 65) when said at least one housing section is in a first position, and said data storage device is operably exposed for interaction with the data processing station (indicated in the left side of Fig. 65) when said when said at least one housing section is in a second position", as recited in Claims 1 and 10.



Similarly, Figs. 66(A) and 66(B) (copied below) show "a protective housing (1052,1054) having at least one housing section (1052) that is movable relative to the data storage device (1058) such that data storage device is shielded by said at least one housing section (indicated in Fig. 66(A)) when said at least one housing section is in a first position, and said data storage device is operably exposed for interaction with the data processing station (indicated in Fig. 66(B)) when said when said at least one housing section is in a second position", as recited in Claims 1 and 10.



As a final example, Fig. 67 shows "a protective housing (1066,1068) having at least one housing section that is movable relative to the data storage device (1070) such that data storage device is shielded by said at least one housing section (indicated in Fig. 67) when said at least one housing section is in a first position, and said data storage device is operably exposed for interaction with the data processing station when said when said at least one housing section is in a second position (see first full paragraph on page 99)", as recited in Claims 1 and 10.



In contrast to the above-quoted limitation, neither Liu nor Wood even remotely suggest "a protective housing having at least one housing section that is movable relative to the data storage device such that data storage device is shielded by said at least one housing section when said at least one housing section is in a first position, and said data storage device is operably exposed for interaction with the data processing station when said when said at least one housing section is in a second position", as recited in Claims 1 and 10. As such, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of these references to produce the structures of Claims 1 and 10.

Claims 4-9 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-17, 19, 21-25, 27-28, 30 and 47-48 depend from Claim 10. Each of these claims is believed to be distinguished over the cited prior art for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claims 1 and 10.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Hirasawa

Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Hirasawa (US Patent No. 6,250,552).

Claims 24 and 25 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Hirasawa fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Bajorek

Claims 26 and 49 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Bajorek (US Patent No. 6,482,330).

Claims 19, 26, 47 and 49 depend from Claim 10, and are believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Bajorek fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Mizoguchi

Claim 29 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Mizoguchi (US Patent No. 5,689,105).

Claim 29 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Nishiyama

Claim 38 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Nishiyama (US Patent No. 5,721,942).

Claim 38 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Davis for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Mizoguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Meeks

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Meeks (US Patent No. 6,268,919).

Claim 48 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Meeks fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

Rejections over Liu/Wood and Foley

Claim 50 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu/Wood in view of Foley (US Patent No. 4,518,627).

Claim 50 depends from Claim 10, and is believed to be distinguished over Liu/Wood for reasons similar to those set forth above with reference to Claim 10, and Foley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Liu/Wood.

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicants believe Claims 1, 4-10, 16, 17, 19, 21-30, 38, and 47-50 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick T. Bever', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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